## **Denver-Metro Area WaterSense Model Community**

EPA Region 8 - Denver

Geographic location or area of activity: Denver-Metro Area, Colorado

**Description of activity**: Western states have much of the highest population growth rates in the country in many of the most water resource limited regions. The cost to ensure availability and access to clean and safe water for future populations may be staggering and include subsequent environmental costs associated with activities such as water diversions, groundwater contamination, mining and transbasin water transfers. Given this, water efficiency in the residential and commercial sector plays a critical role in reducing the strain on aging water and wastewater utilities and/or eliminating the need for costly new construction to expand system capacity. Efficiency also helps to ensure the sustainability of the water resource itself.

Through the WaterSense program, EPA Region 8 and EPA HQ are collaborating with Denver-Metro area utilities, municipalities, non-profits and professional associations to establish the first WaterSense Model Community to protect the future of the region's water supply by promoting and enhancing the market for water-efficient products and services. The partners in this coalition have agreed to work together to help shape the WaterSense consumer outreach campaign to best target efforts in the Denver-Metro area as well as in future WaterSense Model communities.

**Interagency partners**: EPA Region 8, EPA HQ, Colorado Water Resources Board (Colorado Department of Natural Resources)

**Local partners**: City of Arvada, Kohler, Mansfield Plumbing Products, Eastern Research Group, Denver Water, Colehour and Cohen, Water Coalition, City of Westminster, Western Resource Advocates, City of Boulder, Aurora Water, Colorado Environmental Coalition, Metro Mayors Caucus, Fanning and Associations Inc., Green Industries of Colorado, Town of Castle Rock, Platte Canyon Water and Sanitation District, Center for Resource Conservation, American Standard, South Metro Water Supply Authority, City of Thornton

Activity URL: http://www.epa.gov/WaterSense